



SHARPE JAMES
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1991

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT FROM MAYOR SHARPE JAMES
ON APPREHENSION OF SUSPECTED CAR THEFT

I complement the Newark Police Department and the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, which worked around the clock to find the perpetrators of the heinous act, and I believe the efforts of these two law enforcement agencies convinced the young man who drove the vehicle to turn himself in.

While, he may be only 15-years-old, I believe he and the other youth, who were party to this irresponsible and ultimately fatal act, should be dealt with as adults. I will respect the wishes of the County Prosecutor not to divulge his name, although I believe that we need to start naming these youngsters and dealing severely with them.

Auto theft has become a dangerous crime, and we will not tolerate these acts in the City of Newark. I have written to the Governor, Attorney General Del Tufo and the state legislature demanding that appropriate punitive action be taken to place auto thieves behind bars...for a long time.

STATEMENT AD 2

We cannot bring back Dominique Lopez, but we can start today by dealing with auto thieves as we do with major criminals to try to prevent the horrible tragedy that befell the Tate-Lopez family from ever happening again.